

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 149719
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /015 R

DRAFTED BY SCA:SHORSEY:HP
APPROVED BY ARA/MGT:RSGERSHENSON
ARA/MGT:GJKRIEGER, JR.
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-----105139 280216Z /64

R 272323Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

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FOR AMBASSADOR (CHARGE) FROM GERSHENSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN

SUBJECT: PLANS FOR 1977 CONSULAR CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 049772

1. REFERENCED CABLE CANCELLED CONSULAR CONFERENCES SCHEDULED MARCH 14 THROUGH 25 IN MONTEVIDEO AND SANTO DOMINGO. DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE RESCHEDULE THE CONFERENCE FOR PERIOD SEPTEMBER 6 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 16. FIRST SCHEDULE CHOICE WOULD BE PORT OF SPAIN (SEPTEMBER 6-9) AND MONTEVIDEO (SEPTEMBER 12-16). THESE POSTS ARE PREFERRED CHOICES FOR SEVERAL REASONS: AVAILABILITY OF TRANSPORTATION, ADEQUATE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS, AND RELATIVE ATTRACTIVENESS OF HOST

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CITIES. SANTO DOMINGO'S DIFFICULT AIR TRAVEL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN BOTH WASHINGTON AND MONTEVIDEO MAKE IT A LESS DESIRABLE OPTION. FACT THAT PORT OF SPAIN WAS ONE OF THE FIRST POSTS VISITED BY A CONSULAR ASSISTANCE TEAM (CAT) ALSO INFLUENCED DEPARTMENT'S THINKING.

2. EACH SESSION WOULD HAVE 30 TO 35 PARTICIPANTS, MADE UP

OF PARTY OF ABOUT 10 FROM WASHINGTON, AND A CONSULAR OFFICER FROM EACH POST. WE WOULD NEED MEETING AREA FOR UP TO 35 PEOPLE, AND TWO SMALLER WORKSHOP ROOMS IN THE CHANCERY OR IN A HOTEL. IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, WE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE ALL PARTICIPANTS IN SAME HOTEL.

3. WASHINGTON DELEGATION WOULD BE HEADED BY SCA ADMINISTRATOR WATSON AND WOULD ALSO INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM SCS, VO, PPT, INS, ARA/MGT AND POSSIBLY CONGRESSIONAL STAFFS.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE REPLIES TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ASAP:

(A) COULD INDICATED POSTS HOST THE CONFERENCE AT THE ABOVE SPECIFIED TIMES?

(B) IF THE TIMING IS INCONVENIENT, PLEASE SUGGEST AN ALTERNATE TIME.

(C) IS THE POLITICAL CLIMATE A NEGATIVE FACTOR? ARE HOST GOVERNMENT OR PUBLIC REACTIONS LIKELY TO BE NEGATIVE?

(D) ARE THERE ANY SECURITY PROBLEMS THAT WOULD RENDER YOUR POSTS UNSUITABLE OR REQUIRE SPECIAL CONSIDERATION?

(E) CAN POSTS PROVIDE REQUIRED FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES?

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(F) ARE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AVAILABLE DURING THE TIME PERIOD INDICATED? PLEASE ADVISE APPROXIMATE DAILY RATES FOR SINGLE WITH BATH.

(G) PLEASE CAPTION REPLIES FOR ARA/MGT AND SCA ONLY. VANCE

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